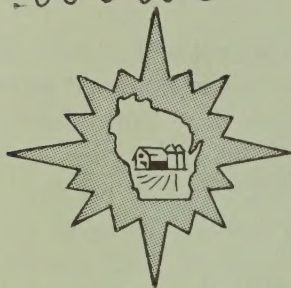


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WISCONSIN *Farm Reporter*

• Dairy
• Crops
• Livestock

VOL. VIII, NO. 2

December 1975

Cream of the News

Milk prices received by Wisconsin farmers in November are expected to average a record high of \$9.60 a hundredweight.

Cold storage stocks of butter and cheese in the Nation at the end of November continued well below a year earlier.

Wholesale prices of butter at the New York market increased sharply again during November and averaged over \$1.04 a pound.

Wisconsin's milk production in November was up 7 percent from a year ago and a record output for that month.

Production of American cheese in Wisconsin during October was above the previous year for the first time since October 1974.

The index of prices received for Wisconsin farm products as of mid-November was down 1 percent from October after having increased for seven consecutive months.

Red meat production in Wisconsin's commercial slaughtering plants during October was 3 percent below a year ago as the pork supply remained lower.

Prices of barrows and gilts at the St. Paul market for November dropped sharply from October but were considerably above last year.

Cold storage stocks of meat in the Nation at the end of November were down 13 percent from the previous year.

Wisconsin hog producers had 18 percent fewer hogs and pigs on farms December 1 than a year ago while the Nation had a decline of 10 percent.

Yields of small grains in Wisconsin during 1975 were reduced by winterkill, late planting, dry weather in July, and armyworm damage.

Corn plant population in Wisconsin and most Corn Belt States showed a decline in 1975.

Beef cattle prices at the St. Paul and Kansas City markets declined from October to November.

STATE'S MILK PRODUCTION CONTINUES HIGHER

Milk production on Wisconsin farms during November totaled 1,398 million pounds, up 7 percent from a year ago and a record output for November. This was the fourth consecutive month that the State's milk production exceeded a year earlier. Production per cow for November averaged 775 pounds, an increase of 50 pounds from the previous year. Seasonally, milk production declined 5 percent from October to November compared with a drop of 8 percent in that period last year. Wisconsin's milk production from January through November was up 1 percent from the comparable months in 1974 whereas the National output showed a slight decline. The milk-feed price ratio for November was up 10 percent from October and was 45 percent above November 1974.

Milk Production

Selected States	November 1974	November 1975	Jan.-Nov. 1975	Change from last year	
				Nov.	Jan.-Nov.
	Million pounds			Percent	
Wisconsin	1,310	1,398	17,114	+ 7	+ 1
Minnesota . . .	660	623	8,221	- 6	- 5
Iowa	282	286	3,575	+ 1	- 2
New York . . .	732	755	9,209	+ 3	+ 2
Pennsylvania . .	540	545	6,424	+ 1	n. c.
California . . .	830	858	9,916	+ 3	+ 2
Other states . .	4,315	4,367	51,755	+ 1	n. c.
United States .	8,669	8,832	106,214	+ 2	n. c.

MILK PRICES AT RECORD HIGH

Prices received by Wisconsin dairy farmers for all milk sold in November are expected to average a record high of \$9.60 a hundredweight. This would be up 35 cents from October and \$2.00 above a year ago. Milk prices have increased for eight consecutive months.

The October milk price of \$9.25 a hundredweight was 43 cents more than the previous month and \$1.71 higher than October 1974. Milkfat content for October averaged 3.83 percent compared with 3.86 percent a year earlier.

WISCONSIN STATISTICAL REPORTING SERVICE

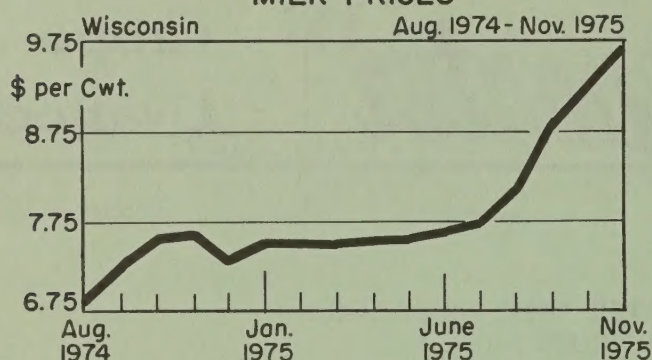
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Grade A milk producers received an average of \$9.34 a hundredweight for October, a gain of 46 cents from Sep-

MILK PRICES



Milk Prices 1/

Selected States	September 1975		October price per cwt.			Nov. 1975
	Average test	Price per cwt.	1974	1975	75/74 change	price per cwt. 2/
	Percent	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Percent	Dollars
Milk for all uses						
Wisconsin	3.77	8.82	7.54	9.25	+ 23	9.60
Minnesota	3.64	8.25	7.16	8.81	+ 23	9.10
Iowa	3.61	8.55	7.40	9.10	+ 23	9.50
New York	3.62	9.70	8.66	10.15	+ 17	10.50
California	3.59	8.70	8.55	9.30	+ 9	9.80
United States . . .	3.64	9.16	8.34	9.66	+ 16	10.00
Wis. utilization						
Market milk	3.76	8.88	7.74	9.34	+ 21	xxx
Manufacturing milk	3.78	8.72	7.22	9.11	+ 26	xxx
Creameries	3.75	8.68	7.17	9.12	+ 27	xxx
Cheese factories . .	3.78	8.73	7.22	9.11	+ 26	xxx
Varied prod. plants	3.77	8.68	7.20	9.11	+ 27	xxx

1/Preliminary average buying prices received for milk of average test. They differ from basic buying prices which are for 3.5% milk. 2/Based on preliminary information for milk of average test.

Wisconsin 3.5 Test Milk Prices 1/

Utilization	October 1974	Sept. 1975	October 1975 2/	Change from last year
	Dollars per cwt.			Percent
Milk for all uses	6.83	8.19	8.45	+ 24
Market milk	7.00	8.27	8.56	+ 22
Manufacturing milk	6.58	8.07	8.30	+ 26
Creameries	6.51	8.10	8.35	+ 28
American cheese plants	6.58	8.06	8.30	+ 26
Varied products plants	6.55	8.06	8.33	+ 27
Federal Order Markets				
Chicago Regional Base Zone	7.30	8.53	8.87	+ 22

1/Computed equivalents. 2/Preliminary.

— PUBLISHED MONTHLY —

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tember and \$1.60 above the previous year. Manufacturing grade milk averaged \$9.11 a hundredweight during October, up 39 cents from a month earlier and \$1.89 more than last year. The spread between manufacturing and market grade milk was 23 cents for October compared with 52 cents a year ago.

STATE'S AMERICAN CHEESE PRODUCTION ABOVE OCTOBER 1974

Production of American cheese in Wisconsin during October was 54 million pounds, an increase of 2 percent from a year ago. This was the first time since October last year that the State's output of American cheese exceeded the previous year. Nationally, production of American cheese was down 4 percent from October 1974. Although Minnesota showed a gain of 5 percent, Iowa's production of American cheese declined 22 percent and all other states had a drop of 12 percent.

Total cheese production in the Nation during October was about the same as a year earlier. Output of Swiss cheese was down 17 percent but production of Italian cheese rose 14 percent. Increases of 1 percent were shown by Brick and Muenster and all other varieties.

Wisconsin's butter production during October was up 12 percent from the previous year. However, the National butter output was 6 percent under October last year. Minnesota had a decline of 16 percent, California was down 8 percent, and all other states churned 9 percent less butter than in October 1974.

Current Dairy Products Estimates

Item and area	October 1974	October 1975	January- October 1975	Change from last year	
				October	Jan.-Oct.
	1,000 pounds			Percent	
BUTTER					
Wisconsin	14,442	16,200	176,080	+ 12	+ 9
Minnesota	14,393	12,105	189,425	- 16	- 4
California	10,198	9,400	107,620	- 8	+ 1
Other states	31,687	28,914	354,650	- 9	+ 5
United States	70,720	66,619	827,775	- 6	+ 3
CHEESE, AMERICAN					
Wisconsin	52,760	54,000	608,900	+ 2	- 8
Minnesota	19,306	20,326	212,846	+ 5	- 5
Iowa	7,020	5,450	63,750	- 22	- 35
Other states	46,434	40,967	526,513	- 12	- 17
United States	125,520	120,743	1,412,009	- 4	- 13
CHEESE, MISCELLANEOUS					
United States					
Swiss	13,938	11,633	143,857	- 17	- 4
Brick and Muenster . .	5,681	5,753	63,105	+ 1	+ 4
Italian	51,980	59,199	545,462	+ 14	+ 9
All other	21,115	21,305	182,462	+ 1	+ 6
Total	92,714	98,160	935,156	+ 6	+ 6
ALL CHEESE					
United States	218,234	218,633	2,346,895	n. c.	- 6
OTHER PRODUCTS					
Cottage Cheese					
United States					
Curd 1/	57,612	59,274	598,883	+ 3	+ 2
Creamed 2/	70,384	73,454	750,992	+ 4	+ 3
	1,000 gallons			Percent	
Ice Cream					
Wisconsin	1,399	1,350	14,300	- 4	- 1
Illinois	3,450	3,400	38,530	- 1	+ 2
Iowa	757	860	9,315	+ 14	+ 17
Michigan	2,565	2,990	33,485	+ 17	+ 13
Minnesota	2,290	2,500	24,600	+ 9	+ 1
Other states	52,845	55,964	607,887	+ 6	+ 8
United States	63,306	67,064	728,117	+ 6	+ 8

1/Includes cottage, pot, and bakers' cheese with a milkfat content of less than 4 percent. 2/Includes cheese with a milkfat content of 4 to 19 percent.

WHOLESALE BUTTER PRICE UP SHARPLY

Wholesale butter prices at the New York market rose sharply again during November. The 92-score butter price for November averaged over \$1.04 a pound, up more than 9 cents from the previous month and nearly 34 cents higher than last year. Wholesale butter prices have increased by about 37 cents a pound during 1975.

Wholesale cheddar cheese prices at Wisconsin assembly points also continued to increase during November. Cheddar cheese in 40 pound blocks averaged 99.31 cents a pound in November, a gain of nearly ½ cent from October and 21½ cents above a year ago. Wholesale prices of cheddar cheese have increased every month during 1975.

Swiss cheese, Wisconsin State Brand, averaged over \$1.22 a pound for November, unchanged from a month earlier but almost 21 cents above November 1974.

Wholesale Dairy Prices

Commodity	November 1974	October 1975	November 1975 1/
Butter, 92-score, New York, pound . .	70.50¢	95.04¢	104.20¢
Cheese, Cheddars, Wisconsin primary markets, 40 lb. blocks, pound 2/ . . .	77.77¢	98.95¢	99.31¢
Cheese, Swiss, Wisconsin State Brand, block pound 2/	101.63¢	122.50¢	122.50¢
Evaporated milk, North Central States, case, 48-14½ oz. cans, range	\$11.90-12.53	\$12.35-12.90	\$ — — —
Nonfat dry milk solids, spray, Chicago area, pound	56.94¢	68.29¢	71.36¢

1/Preliminary estimates. 2/Selling prices, f.o.b. at Wisconsin assembly points.

CHEESE AND BUTTER STOCKS DOWN

Cold storage stocks of cheese and butter in the Nation at the end of November were below a year ago. There were only 16 million pounds of butter in cold storage on November 30 compared with 58 million pounds on that date in 1974. Government butter stocks at 7 million pounds were 61 percent under last year.

Cheese stocks in cold storage at the end of November totaled 380 million pounds, down 24 percent from a year earlier. American cheese stocks were 26 percent below November 30, 1974 while Swiss cheese supplies declined 24 percent and all other cheese was down 16 percent.

Cold Storage Stocks of Butter and Cheese

Commodity	Nov. 30, 1973	Nov. 30, 1974	Nov. 30, 1975	Change from last year
1,000 pounds				Percent
UNITED STATES				
Butter	54,266	57,984	15,961	- 72
Cheese, American	289,958	430,237	320,517	- 26
Cheese, Swiss	13,471	13,871	10,585	- 24
Cheese, all other	52,604	58,141	48,610	- 16
Cheese, total	356,033	502,249	379,712	- 24
WISCONSIN				
Butter	2,018	3,030	699	- 77
Cheese, American	172,352	238,794	168,643	- 29
GOVERNMENT STOCKS*				
Butter	25,755	17,760	6,944	- 61
Cheese, American	464	1,211	2,804	+ 132

*Included in above totals.

Manufacturers' Stocks of Other Dairy Products
United States

Commodity	October 31, 1973	October 31, 1974	October 31, 1975	Change from last year
1,000 pounds				Percent
Dried whole milk	7,592	9,713	4,442	- 54
Dried skim milk	80,390	146,517	38,065	- 74
Dried buttermilk	4,169	5,493	1,848	- 66
Condensed milk and evaporated milk (case goods) 1/ . .	89,367	124,084	70,937	- 43

1/Combined to avoid disclosing individual plant operations.

STATE'S AMERICAN CHEESE OUTPUT ABOVE NOVEMBER LAST YEAR

Weekly estimates for November indicate that production of American cheese in Wisconsin was higher than a year ago. The State's output of American cheese in October was up 2 percent but for January through October showed a decline of 8 percent from that period in 1974. Nationally, production of American cheese during November was about the same as a year earlier, following declines of 4 percent for October and 13 percent in the first 10 months of 1975.

According to weekly estimates, butter production in Wisconsin dropped considerably below a year ago in the last week of November. However, output for November should average above last year. Butter churnings in the State from January through October were up 9 percent from the comparable months in 1974. The Nation's butter production during November was down about 4 percent from the previous year but output in the first 10 months of 1974 was 3 percent higher than a year earlier.

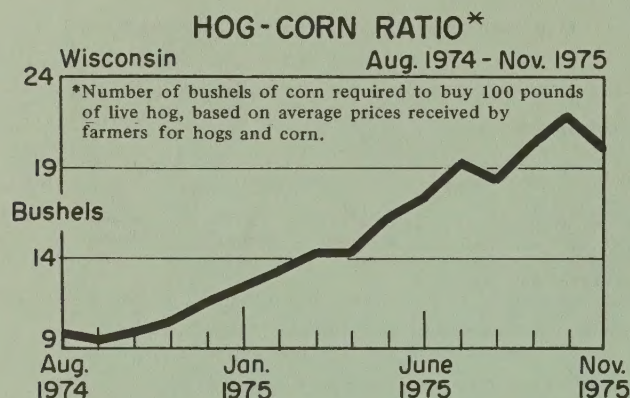
Recent Changes in Butter and Cheese Output

Periods	Butter			American Cheese		
	United States		Wisconsin	United States		Wisconsin
	Production 1975	Change from last year	Change from last year	Production 1975	Change from last year	Change from last year
	1,000 lbs.	Percent	Percent	1,000 lbs.	Percent	Percent
October . . .	66,619	- 6	+ 12	120,743	- 4	+ 2
Jan.-Oct. . .	827,775	+ 3	+ 9	1,412,009	- 13	- 8
Weeks ending:						
Nov. 6 . .	150,040	- 4	+ 12	27,520	+ 3	+ 9
Nov. 13 . .	15,060	- 4	+ 4	27,400	+ 1	+ 5
Nov. 20 . .	15,100	- 1	+ 6	26,700	- 2	+ 2
Nov. 27 . .	13,600	- 7	- 15	26,700	- 1	+ 3
Total . . .	58,800	- 4	xxx	108,320	n. c.	xxx

PRICES RECEIVED INDEX DECLINES FOR NOVEMBER

The index of prices received for Wisconsin farm products as of mid-November was down 7 points (1 percent) from a month earlier after having increased for seven consecutive months. Lower prices for most livestock and crops contributed to the decline in the prices received index. However, at 594 percent of the 1910-14 base, the index was 113 points (23.5 percent) above November 15, 1974.

Hog prices averaged \$48.50 a hundredweight as of mid-November, a decline of \$10.80 from the previous month but \$13.40 above last year.



Steers and heifers averaged \$39.20 a hundredweight in November, down \$2.20 from October but \$9.20 higher than November 1974. Slaughter cows, at \$21.10 a hundredweight for November, were \$1.00 under a month earlier but \$4.20 more than a year ago.

Milk cows for herd replacements averaged \$490.00 each in mid-November, up \$30.00 from October and \$35.00 above last year. This was the first time since June 1974 that milk cows were above a year earlier. Calves, at \$33.70 a hundredweight on November 15, were 70 cents more than the previous month and \$2.10 higher than November 1974.

Sheep declined 30 cents from October to November but at \$7.80 a hundredweight were \$2.70 above a year ago. Lambs averaged \$40.20 a hundredweight for mid-November, a gain of 70 cents from October and \$9.20 more than last year.

Prices Received by Wisconsin Farmers

Commodity	Unit	Nov. 15, 1973	Nov. 15, 1974	Oct. 15, 1975	Nov. 15, 1975
Dollars					
Milk cows	Head	615.00	455.00	460.00	490.00
Steers and heifers . .	Cwt.	36.60	30.00	41.40	39.20
Cows	Cwt.	30.20	16.90	22.10	21.10
Calves	Cwt.	56.40	31.60	33.00	33.70
Hogs	Cwt.	39.80	35.10	59.30	48.50
Sheep	Cwt.	10.50	5.10	8.10	7.80
Lambs	Cwt.	28.80	31.00	39.50	40.20
Chickens 1/	Lb.	.215	.105	.145	.145
Turkeys	Lb.	.380	.310	.370	.380
Eggs	Doz.	.580	.488	.450	.494
Corn	Bu.	2.13	3.40	2.71	2.40
Wheat	Bu.	4.12	4.41	3.43	3.08
Oats	Bu.	1.20	1.56	1.33	1.34
Soybeans	Bu.	5.04	7.41	4.91	4.35
Alfalfa hay, baled . .	Ton	30.50	32.00	54.00	50.00

1/Excludes broilers.

Egg prices increased about 4½ cents a dozen from October to November. At nearly 49½ cents a dozen on November 15, eggs were about ½ cent higher than a year earlier. Turkeys averaged 38 cents a pound liveweight in November, a gain of 1 cent from the previous month and 7 cents above November 1974.

Corn prices dropped to an average of \$2.40 a bushel in mid-November, a decline of 31 cents from October and \$1.00 lower than a year ago. Wheat fell to \$3.08 a bushel in November, down 35 cents from a month earlier and \$1.33 below last year.

Soybeans averaged \$4.35 a bushel on November 15, a decline of 56 cents from October and well below the average of \$7.41 a bushel in November 1974. Oats, at \$1.34 a bushel for November, was up 1 cent from the previous month but 22 cents under a year ago.

Although baled alfalfa hay dropped \$4.00 a ton from October to November, the average of \$50.00 a ton in mid-November was \$18.00 above last year.

CORN PLANT POPULATION LOWER IN 1975

Corn plant population in Wisconsin and most Corn Belt States showed a decline in 1975. Information on corn development and yields is collected monthly from August through November by the Statistical Reporting Service as part of the corn objective yield program. Counts and measurements are made by trained enumerators during visits to random plots in a scientific sampling of fields in selected states. The trend in recent years has shown increases in plant population per acre although in 1973 most Corn Belt States showed slight to moderate declines. In 1974 most Corn Belt States again showed an increase over the previous year in the number of plants per acre. However in 1975 the plant population in all but two of the reporting states was down or unchanged from a year earlier. Based on a stalk count in 117 sample plots, Wisconsin's corn plant population in 1975 was 17,900 plants per acre compared with 18,500 in 1974.

Plant Population per Acre of Corn for Grain 1/

States	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975
Ohio	18,200	16,900	18,200	18,200	18,900	18,200
Indiana	17,900	17,000	18,300	17,900	18,700	18,000
Illinois	18,100	18,000	19,100	19,100	18,600	18,400
Michigan	18,400	16,500	18,500	16,900	16,900	17,300
Wisconsin	18,800	18,100	19,400	18,300	18,500	17,900
Minnesota	18,400	18,600	19,000	18,300	18,200	18,200
Iowa	18,000	18,100	19,200	18,900	18,600	18,500
Missouri	14,600	14,800	15,300	15,300	15,500	14,500
South Dakota	12,200	11,900	12,800	12,600	12,800	12,800
Nebraska	16,400	16,000	16,900	15,400	16,400	15,400
Kansas	15,900	17,400	17,000	17,500	18,000	17,500

1/Population based on stalk count in sample plots selected for objective yield determination.

Measurements of row spacing of corn for grain in Wisconsin showed a slight decrease in the average row width from 1974 to 1975. The State's average row width for 1975 was 37.0 inches compared with 37.2 inches for 1974. Other neighboring Corn Belt States had narrower spacings between corn rows than Wisconsin except for Iowa which had the same. The most popular row width for 1975 in almost all Corn Belt States was between 36.6 and 38.5 inches.

Measured Row Spacing of Corn for Grain 1/

State and year	Row width groups (inches)					Average width
	34.5 & less	34.6 – 36.5	36.6 – 38.5	38.6 – 40.5	40.6 & greater	
	Percent of samples					Inches
Wisconsin						
1970	13.1	11.7	35.2	29.7	10.3	37.4
1971	13.5	11.7	38.0	27.6	9.2	37.4
1972	18.1	9.7	31.3	31.2	9.7	37.3
1973	18.0	12.5	27.1	35.5	6.9	37.3
1974	16.3	13.3	31.1	31.9	7.4	37.2
1975	18.0	12.8	33.3	26.5	9.4	37.0
Other States 2/						
Indiana	36.1	11.7	37.2	12.8	2.2	35.1
Illinois	29.7	8.6	44.0	16.4	1.3	35.8
Iowa	18.5	10.5	42.0	21.6	7.4	37.0
Michigan	42.8	1.1	29.7	20.9	5.5	34.9
Minnesota	35.0	9.1	37.0	15.4	3.5	35.4

1/Spacings based on row measurements in sample plots selected for objective yield determinations. 2/Data for 1975.

DECEMBER CROP REPORT

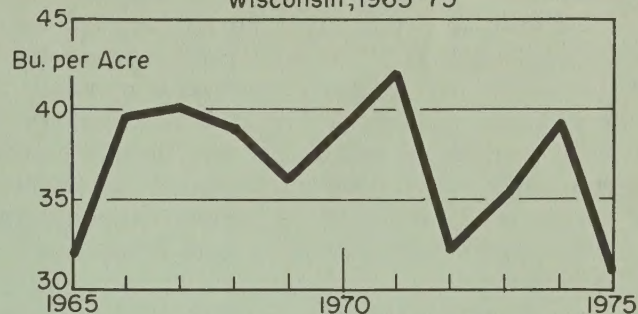
One of the best falls in many years permitted Wisconsin farmers to complete a lot of field work before winter made an appearance. Although September and October were quite dry, some rain in November provided moisture for plowing and farmers were able to accomplish much fall plowing. A substantial amount of fertilizer was applied this fall as the weather was good and prices were below last spring's high levels. Feed supplies are more adequate than a year ago and quality is much better except for first crop hay which was rained on too often.

Weather conditions for Wisconsin agriculture during 1975 were good except for a late spring and an extended dry period from July to mid-August. Planting and early growing weather in May was very good for crops. Rainfall was plentiful in June for crop growth but July was hot and dry which hurt crops severely on sandy or light soils. Heavy rains in the second half of August were too late for the drought stricken corn but helped hay, pastures, new seedings, soybeans, and late vegetable crops. September and October were dry but provided excellent harvesting weather. Rain and snow in November helped replenish soil moisture supplies although south central and southeastern areas indicated a need for more sub-soil reserves.

Yields of small grains in 1975 were reduced by late planting and hot, dry weather in July when heads were filling. Winterkill in the south and east also hurt the winter wheat crop which lacked a protective cover in January when

WINTER WHEAT YIELDS

Wisconsin, 1965-75



rain washed the snow away and then formed ice sheets. Despite the very late planting caused by a cold, wet April, the small grains grew well in May and June but then lacked moisture for good kernel development. Straw supplies were adequate for 1975 but oat production declined 13 percent from 1974. Fewer acres of oats were harvested for grain and the average yield of 55 bushels per acre was 6 bushels under last year. Armyworm damage in northern counties also contributed to a reduction in oat yields.

Yields of winter wheat and spring wheat were lower in 1975 than the previous year but an increase in winter wheat acreage kept all wheat production nearly comparable to 1974. Wisconsin farmers planted 78,000 acres of winter wheat in the fall of 1974 compared with 61,000 acres a year earlier. This was the largest winter wheat acreage since 1924. Yields of winter wheat averaged only 31 bushels per acre in 1975,

Crop Summary of Wisconsin for December 1, 1975

Crop	Acreage			Yield per acre			Unit	Production		
	1973	1974	1975 (prelimi- nary)	1973	1974	1975 (prelimi- nary)		1973	1974	1975 (prelimi- nary)
	Thousands							Thousands		
FIELD CROPS										
Corn for grain	2,090	2,270	2,350	83.0	68.0	86.0	Bu.	173,470	154,360	202,100
Oats	1,370	1,400	1,350	41.0	61.0	55.0	Bu.	56,170	85,400	74,250
Barley	21	19	35	37.0	47.0	43.0	Bu.	777	893	1,505
Rye	9	10	15	21.0	24.0	21.0	Bu.	189	240	315
Wheat (all)	27	78	93	33.0	36.6	30.3	Bu.	890	2,853	2,820
Winter	16	57	72	35.0	39.0	31.0	Bu.	560	2,223	2,232
Spring	11	21	21	30.0	30.0	28.0	Bu.	330	630	588
Soybeans for beans	241	217	205	25.0	20.0	23.0	Bu.	6,025	4,340	4,715
Potatoes (fall)	47.0	50.0	49.5	245	280	300	Cwt.	11,515	14,000	14,850
Tobacco (all)	10.2	9.4	11.0	1,859	1,965	1,926	Lb.	18,963	18,471	21,190
Type 54	4.9	4.7	5.6	1,950	2,060	2,000	Lb.	9,555	9,682	11,200
Type 55	5.3	4.7	5.4	1,775	1,870	1,850	Lb.	9,408	8,789	9,990
HAY AND FORAGE										
Hay (all)	3,950	3,950	4,000	2.69	2.68	2.66	Ton	10,622	10,600	10,650
Alfalfa and mixture	2,970	3,000	3,000	2.90	2.90	2.85	Ton	8,613	8,700	8,550
All other	980	950	1,000	2.05	2.00	2.10	Ton	2,009	1,900	2,100
VEGETABLE CROPS										
Carrots	4.5	4.0	3.4	411	483	428	Cwt.	1,851	1,930	1,457
Cabbage	5.4	5.8	5.5	300	320	405	Cwt.	1,621	1,856	2,228
Lettuce	1.1	1.1	.9	250	200	120	Cwt.	275	220	108
Mint for oil	6.5	8.3	7.0	31	46	33	Cwt.	204	380	231
Onions, commercial	1.4	1.3	1.2	280	280	260	Cwt.	392	364	312
For processing:										
Green lima beans	7.4	5.3	11.2	.93	.94	1.02	Ton 1/	6.9	5.0	11.4
Peas	123.2	129.8	133.1	.99	1.33	1.21	Ton 1/	122.0	172.7	161.2
Snap beans	55.7	61.0	64.8	2.47	2.55	2.21	Ton	137.6	155.6	143.2
Sweet corn	132.6	118.1	142.0	3.85	3.83	3.65	Ton	510.5	452.3	517.7
Cucumber for pickles	10.4	11.4	10.2	4.91	3.91	4.25	Ton	51.1	44.6	43.4
Beets for canning	6.6	8.1	7.3	9.18	10.65	12.37	Ton	60.6	86.3	90.3
FRUITS, ETC.										
Apples, commercial	—	—	—	—	—	—	Lb.	50,000	65,000	64,000
Tart cherries	—	—	—	—	—	—	Ton	2.4	5.4	5.2
Cranberries	—	—	—	—	—	—	Bbl.	756	870	825
Strawberries	1.4	1.3	1.4	27	29	28	Cwt.	38	38	39

1/Shelled.

down 8 bushels from 1974 and the lowest since 1959. The spring wheat acreage for 1975 remained unchanged but yields averaged 2 bushels less than last year. Production of all wheat at 2.8 million bushels in 1975 was 1 percent below 1974.

Wisconsin farmers planted 37,000 acres of barley in 1975, up 17,000 acres from 1974 and the most since 1968. Barley yields averaged 43 bushels per acre, down 4 bushels from a year earlier but production increased 69 percent. Rye production for 1975 increased 31 percent. Although rye yields were 3 bushels lower than 1974, more acreage was harvested for grain.

A summary of all field crops for 1975 will be issued in mid-January.

RED MEAT PRODUCTION BELOW OCTOBER 1974

Production of red meat in Wisconsin's commercial slaughtering plants during October was about 3 percent below a year earlier. Although output of beef was up 4 percent, the supply of pork declined 17 percent from October 1974.

Cattle slaughter during October totaled 142,000 head, an increase of 12,000 from the previous year. Average liveweight of cattle killed in October was 1,031 pounds, 53 pounds lighter than last year.

There were 252,000 hogs butchered in October compared with 311,000 for that month in 1974. Hogs averaged 246 pounds liveweight for October, up 5 pounds from a year earlier.

Calf slaughter in October numbered 44,500 head, a gain of 12,500 from the previous year. Average calf liveweight, at 137 pounds, was the same as in October 1974. The 600 sheep and lambs killed in October was 200 less than a year ago.

Commercial Livestock Slaughter

Area	Number			Liveweight	
	October		Change from last year	October	
	1974	1975		1974	1975
	1,000 head		Percent	Million pounds	
Cattle					
Wisconsin	130.0	142.0	+ 9	140.9	146.4
United States 1/ . .	3,605.0	3,988.3	+ 11	3,608.1	3,918.5
Calves					
Wisconsin	32.0	44.5	+ 39	4.4	6.1
United States 1/ . .	374.6	590.9	+ 58	104.4	170.9
Hogs					
Wisconsin	311.0	252.0	- 19	75.0	62.0
United States 1/ . .	7,430.8	5,638.2	- 24	1,802.2	1,351.2
Sheep and lambs					
Wisconsin8	.6	- 25	.076	.056
United States 1/ . .	878.6	731.7	- 17	91.6	78.5

1/Excludes Alaska.

MEAT STOCKS REMAIN BELOW YEAR AGO

Cold storage stocks of meat in the Nation at the end of November were down 13 percent from a year earlier. Meat stocks have been below the previous year since October 1974.

Beef stocks in cold storage on November 30 totaled 317 million pounds, a decline of 12 percent from a year ago. Although beef supplies increased by 44 million pounds during

November, they were 43 million pounds under last year.

There were 261 million pounds of pork in cold storage at the end of November, down 14 percent from a year earlier. Pork stocks increased by 38 million pounds during November but were more than 41 million pounds below November 30, 1974.

Cold Storage Stocks of Meat United States

Commodity	Nov. 30, 1973	Nov. 30, 1974	Oct. 31, 1975	Nov. 30, 1975	Change from last year
	1,000 pounds				Percent
Beef:					
Frozen	376,287	342,887	264,154	309,612	- 10
In cure and cured	16,298	16,873	8,591	7,433	- 56
Total	392,585	359,760	272,745	317,045	- 12
Pork:					
Frozen	258,848	287,247	208,205	242,285	- 16
In cooler	18,321	15,598	15,433	19,024	+ 22
Total	277,169	302,845	223,638	261,309	- 14
Other meats and meat products:					
Veal, frozen	9,921	12,948	8,861	8,974	- 31
Lamb and mutton, frozen	14,691	14,169	10,775	11,514	- 19
Canned meats in cooler:					
Hams	61,623	51,074	47,815	46,502	- 9
Other meats	14,040	13,425	9,836	11,918	- 11
Total, all meats	770,029	754,221	573,670	657,262	- 13

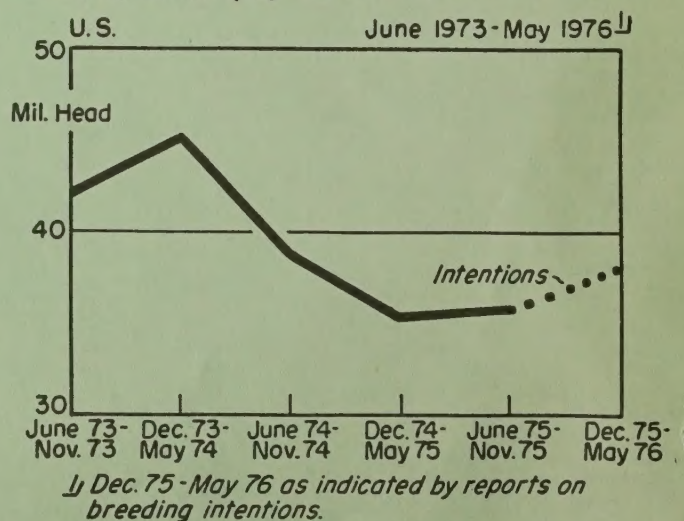
NATION'S HOG NUMBERS DOWN

The number of hogs and pigs on the nation's farms December 1, 1975 is estimated at 49.6 million head, 10 percent less than last year's inventory, and 19 percent below December 1, 1973. Hogs kept for breeding totaled 7.6 million head 3 percent more than a year ago, but 12 percent less than December 1, 1973. Hogs and pigs held for market totaled 42.0 million head, down 12 percent from last year, and 20 percent below December 1, 1973.

Hogs and pigs on Wisconsin farms December 1, 1975 are estimated at 1,150,000 head, down 18 percent from a year earlier. Hogs kept for breeding totaled 205,000 head, down 10 percent from last year.

The pig crop on the nation's farms for December 1974 through November 1975 is an estimated 71.3 million head, 15 percent below a year ago and 19 percent less than the 1973 pig crop.

PIG CROP, By 6 Month Periods



**All Hogs and Pigs on Farms, Breeding and Market
December 1, 1974 and 1975, 14 States**

State	For breeding			Market			Total hogs and pigs		
	1974	1975	Change from last year	1974	1975	Change from last year	1974	1975	Change from last year
	1,000 head		Percent	1,000 head		Percent	1,000 head		Percent
Georgia	246	228	- 7	1,344	1,072	- 20	1,590	1,300	- 18
Illinois	800	823	+ 3	5,700	4,777	- 16	6,500	5,600	- 14
Indiana	538	573	+ 7	3,762	3,327	- 12	4,300	3,900	- 9
Iowa	1,740	1,827	+ 5	11,660	10,773	- 8	13,400	12,600	- 6
Kansas	228	231	+ 1	1,522	1,419	- 7	1,750	1,650	- 6
Kentucky	164	168	+ 2	936	832	- 11	1,100	1,000	- 9
Minnesota	518	465	- 10	3,182	2,535	- 20	3,700	3,000	- 19
Missouri	558	512	- 8	3,342	2,688	- 20	3,800	3,200	- 18
Nebraska	360	405	+ 13	2,690	2,295	- 15	3,050	2,700	- 11
North Carolina	274	304	+ 11	1,616	1,596	- 1	1,890	1,900	+ 1
Ohio	264	260	- 2	1,686	1,415	- 16	1,950	1,675	- 14
South Dakota	238	245	+ 3	1,462	1,155	- 21	1,700	1,400	- 18
Texas	127	122	- 4	813	658	- 19	940	780	- 17
Wisconsin	228	205	- 10	1,172	945	- 19	1,400	1,150	- 18
Total 14 States	6,283	6,368	+ 1	40,887	35,487	- 13	47,170	41,855	- 11

**Sows Farrowing, Pigs per Litter and Pig Crop
September through November, 1974 and 1975, 14 States**

State	Sows farrowing			Pigs per litter		Pig crop 1/		
	1974	1975	Change from last year	1974	1975	1974	1975	Change from last year
	1,000 head		Percent	Head		1,000 head		Percent
Georgia	68	63	- 7	6.82	6.90	464	435	- 6
Illinois	325	315	- 3	6.90	6.85	2,243	2,158	- 4
Indiana	195	185	- 5	7.10	7.20	1,385	1,332	- 4
Iowa	560	540	- 4	7.00	7.25	3,920	3,915	n. c.
Kansas	95	90	- 5	7.25	7.40	689	666	- 3
Kentucky	58	50	- 14	7.00	7.25	406	363	- 11
Minnesota	200	165	- 17	7.00	7.40	1,400	1,221	- 13
Missouri	220	190	- 14	7.18	7.25	1,580	1,378	- 13
Nebraska	155	145	- 6	7.25	7.35	1,124	1,066	- 5
North Carolina	82	83	+ 1	7.20	7.30	590	606	+ 3
Ohio	105	85	- 19	7.10	7.30	746	621	- 17
South Dakota	93	80	- 14	7.20	7.20	670	576	- 14
Texas	39	35	- 10	7.20	7.30	281	256	- 9
Wisconsin	85	77	- 9	7.40	7.65	629	589	- 6
Total 14 States	2,280	2,103	- 8	7.07	7.22	16,127	15,182	- 6

1/Number of pigs born September through November, that were on hand December 1, or had been sold.

Sows to Farrow, December through May, 1975 and 1976, 14 States

State	December through February 1/			March through May		
	1975	1976 2/	Change from last year	1975	1976 2/	Change from last year
	1,000 head		Percent	1,000 head		Percent
Georgia	75	70	- 7	62	68	+ 10
Illinois	260	290	+ 12	380	390	+ 3
Indiana	160	180	+ 13	170	190	+ 12
Iowa	440	520	+ 18	745	760	+ 2
Kansas	70	75	+ 7	82	90	+ 10
Kentucky	50	56	+ 12	55	60	+ 9
Minnesota	140	142	+ 1	170	170	n. c.
Missouri	140	145	+ 4	190	200	+ 5
Nebraska	110	125	+ 14	160	180	+ 13
North Carolina	97	103	+ 6	93	102	+ 10
Ohio	80	90	+ 13	90	100	+ 11
South Dakota	52	57	+ 10	112	112	n. c.
Texas	42	43	+ 2	34	40	+ 18
Wisconsin	62	60	- 3	85	85	n. c.
Total 14 States	1,778	1,956	+ 10	2,428	2,547	+ 5

1/December preceding year. 2/Number indicated by breeding intentions reports.

BEEF CATTLE PRICES DOWN

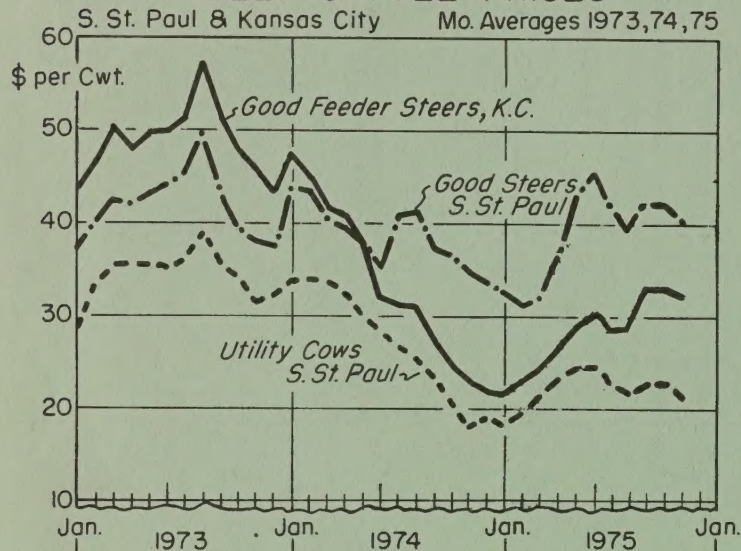
Beef cattle prices at the St. Paul and Kansas City markets declined from October to November. Good grade fed

steers weighing between 900-1100 pounds averaged \$40.18 a hundredweight at St. Paul during November, down \$2.37 from a month earlier but \$4.96 above last year. Utility cows at St. Paul averaged \$21.43 a hundredweight for November, a

decline of \$1.16 from October but \$3.38 higher than November 1974.

Good grade feeder steers weighing between 600-700 pounds averaged \$32.14 a hundredweight in November, down \$1.18 from the previous month but \$8.88 above a year ago.

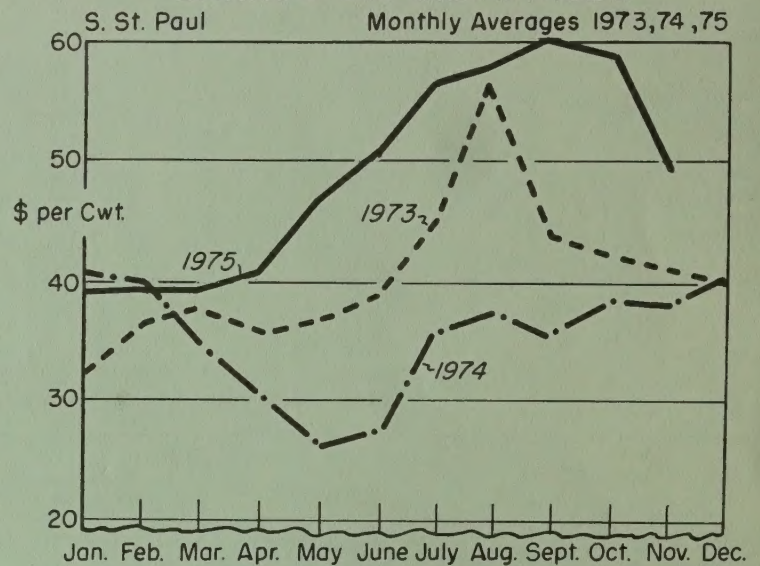
BEEF CATTLE PRICES



HOG MARKET MUCH LOWER FOR NOVEMBER

Prices of barrows and gilts at the St. Paul market for November averaged \$49.32 a hundredweight, a drop of \$9.57 from October. Hog prices showed a slight recovery in the last week of November.

BARROW and GILT PRICES



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